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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, September 9, 1983 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended September 3 totaled an estimated 17.4 billion ton-miles, 12.2 percent above the corresponding period a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 35 weeks of 1983 was an estimated 546.9 billion ton-miles, 0.6 percent below the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended September 3 totaled 392,824 cars, 8.5 percent over 1982, and 2.1 percent higher than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 4.9 percent in the East, 6.5 percent in the South and 12.0 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1982, 16 of the 21 commodity groups were up, including nonmetallic minerals, up 53.5 percent; grain, up 33.6 percent; and motor vehicles and equipment, up 24.5 percent. Fifteen of the 21 groups were up from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended August 27 totaled 48,108 cars, up 21.4 percent from the corresponding week of 1982, and 83,774 trailers and/or containers, 22.5 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 34 weeks of the year was 1,485,036 cars, 20.5 percent higher than last year, and 2,558,675 trailers and/or containers, up 17.3 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 9/3/83:

	Loadings in Week ended September 3, 1983		Change from Corresponding Week 1982			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	31,867	I	8,011	33.6	I	1,853	6.2
Other farm products	2,852	D	143	4.8	D	381	11.8
Metallic ores	14,524	I	781	5.7	D	4,359	23.1
Coal	109,668	D	1,840	1.7	I	1,588	1.5
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	10,768	I	314	3.0	D	182	1.7
Nonmetallic minerals	14,443	I	5,034	53.5	I	1,780	14.1
Grain mill products	11,993	I	182	1.5	D	31	0.3
Food and kindred products	12,222	D	1,267	9.4	I	373	3.1
Primary forest products	14,182	I	270	1.9	D	494	3.4
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,525	I	1,326	21.4	I	43	0.6
Pulp, paper and allied products	15,748	I	77	0.5	I	898	6.0
Chemicals and allied products	25,189	I	2,961	13.3	I	1,452	6.1
Petroleum products	4,804	D	181	3.6	I	205	4.5
Stone, clay and glass products	11,674	I	757	6.9	I	209	1.8
Coke	5,666	I	1,290	29.5	D	93	1.6
Metals and products	9,005	I	946	11.7	I	5	0.1
Motor vehicles and equipment	17,427	I	3,435	24.5	I	2,376	15.8
Waste and scrap materials	8,248	I	750	10.0	I	198	2.5
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	10,127	I	1,012	11.1	I	1,721	20.5
All other carloads	54,569	I	8,008	17.2	I	787	1.5
LCL traffic	323	D	1,070	76.8	I	49	17.9
Total Cars Loaded	392,824	I	30,653	8.5	I	7,997	2.1
Corresponding week of 1982	362,171						

	1983	1982	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (35 weeks)	12,449,255	12,901,047	D 3.5
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
34 weeks ended August 27	529.5	534.8	D 1.0
Week ended September 3	17.4	15.5	I 12.2
35 weeks cumulative	546.9	550.3	D 0.6

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